

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /054 W

-----064779 171104Z /15

O 171048Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3864

UNCLAS MANILA 12868

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, RP

SUBJ: ACCUSED TORTURERS OF MRS. HERRERA ACQUITTED

REF: MANILA 12364

1. LATER AFTERNOON AUGUST 17, MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOUND
LIEUTENANTS MATILLANO AND REGIS NOT REPEAT NOT GUILTY OF
TORTURING MRS. TRINIDAD HERRERA. VERDICT WAS ANNOUNCED AFTER
COURT HAD DELIBERATED IN CLOSED SESSION FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR.

2. AT AUGUST 16 SESSION OF COURT MARTIAL HEARING, DEFENSE
PRESENTED ITS SECOND WITNESS, JOSE DE LA CRUZ, A FINGERPRINTER
AT WESTERN POLICE DISTRICT. DE LA CRUZ TESTIFIED HE NOTICED
WHITE SPOTS ON THUMBS OF MRS. HERRERA WHILE FINGERPRINTING HER
SHORTLY AFTER HER ARREST. DEFENSE USED THIS TESTIMONY TO ARGUE
THAT TELLTALE MARKS ON MRS. HERRERA'S THUMBS WERE PRESENT BEFORE
SHE WAS INTERROGATED AND THEREFORE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN CAUSED,
AS PROSECUTION HAD ARGUED, BY ELECTRIC SHOCK TREATMENT. FOLLOWING
DE LA CRUZ' TESTIMONY, DEFENSE RESTED ITS CASE. AT AUGUST 17
SESSION, BOTH PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE SUMMARIZED THEIR CASES.
AFTER SHORT BREAK, MILITARY TRIBUNAL WENT INTO CLOSED SESSION
BEFORE RE-EMERGING TO ANNOUNCE ACQUITTAL OF BOTH MATILLANO
AND REGIS TO COURTROOM PACKED WITH 20-30 SUPPORTERS OF MRS. HERRERA.
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, ATROCITIES, TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MANILA12868
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770296-0804
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770853/aaaabstp.tel
Line Count: 55
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MANILA 12364
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1578199
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACCUSED TORTURERS OF MRS. HERRERA ACQUITTED
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, RP, (HERRERA, TRINIDAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/95266b59-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
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22 May 2009
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